

SECRET

REPORT

CD NO.

DATE OF INFORMATION 1950

DATE DIST. **B** Jul 1950

NO. OF PAGES 4

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Izvestiya.

PETROLEUM WORKERS SPUR TECHNICAL PROGRESS

N. Baybakov

Minister of Petroleum Industry USSR

The trend toward outstanding work methods and technical progress is widespread in the petroleum industry. At a recent All-Union meeting of innovators of the petroleum industry in Moscow it became clear how rich in talent the USSR is. Innovators have improved the industry by introducing new, highly productive processes and effective methods of exploring petroleum deposits, drilling wells, and extracting and refining petroleum.

Important achievements have been attained in drilling oil wells. In 1949 the volume of oil-well drilling was almost twice that of the prewar level, and the volume of exploratory boring was more than three times as great. Quality indexes also have improved considerably. The average speed of turbo-drilling has tripled during the past 2 years in oil fields in Tuzmaz, Krasnokamsk, and other regions characterized by very hard rock.

Drilling innovators, by improving their work organization and skillfully availing themselves of outstanding domestic technique, were able to achieve a speed in oil-well drilling of 1,000 to 1,500 meters per machine-month in areas where before the war the speed did not exceed 200 meters.

On the initiative of drillers of Buzovnyneft', Krasnokamskneft', and Tuzmazaneft' Trusts, the forced (forsirovanny) method of drilling has been widely adopted, and has led to a considerable improvement in the utilization of equipment and in technical and economic indexes.

In many areas there is extensive competition to shorten the oil-well-building cycle and to eliminate the lags between completion of drilling one well and the start of another. Planned organization of all drilling and derrick-assembly work and creation of the first multiple-purpose brigades more than doubled productivity.

- 1 -

SECRET

SECRET

[illegible]

SECRET

SECRET

50X1-HUM

A number of engineers and innovators have introduced a method of large-block construction and assembly of drilling equipment which has shortened the time required for the construction of derricks and the assembly of equipment to one-third to one-fourth of what it was previously. This method has now been widely adopted.

A number of engineers and skilled workmen have solved the important problem of exploiting the considerable reserves of petroleum under rivers, lakes, capital constructions, and the bottom of the sea. By drilling special sloping wells in Baku, Krasnokamsk and the Volga region, more than a million additional tons of petroleum were extracted, reducing capital investment tens of millions of rubles. Petroleum workers mastered the art of drilling sloping wells in a remarkably short time.

The new, progressive, multiple-shaft method of drilling oil wells also is being successfully introduced. This method was proposed by a number of engineers and innovators.

Equipped with outstanding domestic technique, USSR petroleum workers in the fourth quarter of 1949 exceeded the level of petroleum extraction established by the Five-Year Plan for 1950.

The new regions in eastern USSR have achieved particular success. Petroleum extraction here has risen several times above what it was in 1940. Stalin's directive to undertake the organization of a petroleum base in the area of the western and southern slopes of the Ural Mountains is being successfully carried out.

Only under the conditions of a planned socialist economy is it possible to work petroleum and gas deposits as a single unit on a strictly scientific basis, assuring the solution of all problems connected with the exploitation of these deposits, and taking into account hydrodynamic, geological, and economic factors.

The introduction, into Tuymazaneft' Trust and Krasnodarneft' Association deposits, of the new, scientifically based system of working and the technology of exploiting deposits assured the extraction of more than a million additional tons of petroleum in 1949. It was shown that it was possible to continue to employ the cheapest method of petroleum extraction, the gusher method, for some time.

Measures also have been carried out for the efficient exploitation of reserves in old oil fields. Deep-well pump exploitation has been revised on a broad scale on the basis of modern, outstanding Soviet technique. In this matter, petroleum workers of Azneft' Association have achieved particular success. A group of innovators headed by Ovnatanzov, chief engineer of the Azneft' Association were presented with a Stalin Prize.

It is impossible to gain an increase in the number of operating wells without organizing proper maintenance and technical control of their work, without underground repair work and improved methods of exploitation. Laureates of Stalin Prizes Agasaf Bagirov and Aga Guseyn Kafarov, and hero of Socialist Labor Mindubayev performed a great service in this matter.

Working the rich petroleum deposits under the Caspian Sea was considered a very complicated technical problem. It was solved by a number of engineers and innovators by organizing the exploration and working of maritime deposits from separate bases (osnovaniye) built in the sea and from trestles (estakada) built on the coastal zone. The development of petroleum fields located in the sea, in Azerbaydzhan SSR and Dagestan ASSR, equipped to meet all the requirements of modern technique, is one of the greatest achievements in the field of working petroleum deposits.

- 2 -

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

50X1-HUM

The many daring technical innovations and outstanding methods of work introduced into petroleum refining have led to an increased range of light petroleum products, the creation of new, highly important types of petroleum products, and the solution of a number of very important problems in the technique and technology of petroleum refining.

Because of the successes of petroleum machine-building plants, the petroleum industry is no longer required to import equipment. Productivity per worker in petroleum machine-building plants was more than twice as high in 1949 as in 1946.

Future success in the extraction and refining of petroleum is being determined today in a large measure in construction areas where tens of thousands of workers, engineers, and technicians are working intensively to create new oil fields and plants. Capital construction being carried out by the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry claims one of the leading places in the USSR national economy, both for volume and for complexity of work. Outstanding workers are introducing many innovations into the production and organization of construction operations. The innovators include a number of laureates of Stalin Prizes. During the past year approximately 45,000 efficiency proposals were advanced. Work put into effect by the innovators resulted in a saving of more than 240 million rubles.

The goal set by Stalin for increasing petroleum extraction to 60 million tons during the next five-year period demands a further accelerated rate in exploration and exploitation of petroleum deposits. It is necessary to introduce into drilling the innovator-drillers' outstanding methods and types of work organization. The forced method of drilling must be widely adopted.

The creative thought of innovators and all drillers should be actively directed toward steady improvement of organizational work and production in drilling, acceleration of drilling machine turnover, solving organizational disturbances in oil-well construction, gaining more complete and efficient use of time consumed in drilling work, and ending breakdowns during drilling.

The work of putting back into operation idle oil wells, which was started in recent years particularly by the Azneft' Association, should be expanded in every way. Exploiters need to increase the attention given to organization of technical maintenance and control of operating wells, and to more rapid exploitation of new wells.

Producers and workers in scientific research organizations should collaborate with the innovators to determine the most advantageous repair intervals for petroleum well work, and on the basis of this conclusion, suggest a way to convert operating wells to planned preventive repair.

A steady increase in the number of operating oil wells is the goal toward which all exploiters must strive. It is also necessary to raise the productivity of the wells already in operation.

Petroleum workers are faced with very great responsibilities. The task set by Stalin of increasing the range of light petroleum products and of improving the variety and quality of all petroleum products at the same time must be solved in the technological plans for new plants and the reconstruction of old ones.

Petroleum construction workers are not yet fulfilling the state plan and are lagging also in the matter of lowering the costs of construction. It is impossible to tolerate this. The tasks set by the Party and the government of putting into operation new capacities and sharply decreasing construction costs must be fulfilled.

- 3 -

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET



50X1-HUM

The petroleum workers-innovators are making an important contribution to the development of the Soviet petroleum industry by their successes. The work methods of outstanding persons must become the property of all petroleum workers.

On the initiative of Bashkir petroleum workers, socialist competition is developing to fulfill ahead of schedule plans for drilling oil wells, for the extraction and refining of petroleum, and for construction work. Managers of enterprises, trusts, and associations, as well as trade-union organizations, must assure widespread extension of this competition to all petroleum regions.

The most important task consists in assuring the completion of the 1950 state plan ahead of schedule, and in preparing conditions for more rapid development of the petroleum industry in subsequent years.

- E N D -

- 4 -

SECRET

SECRET